

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 527
By Wallace

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Roy Messer of White Pine.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of one of this state's most distinguished citizens, Mr. Roy Messer; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected citizen of the town of White Pine, whose civic and professional achievements were unparalleled, Mr. Messer gave unreservedly of his time and prodigious talents to effectuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, born on November 6, 1902, in Haywood County, North Carolina, Roy Messer's long list of accomplishments led him down many paths from the time he moved to White Pine in 1924; and

WHEREAS, a witness to some of the greatest advancements of the 20th century, for 72 years he played an integral role in the growth and development of Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Messer's remarkable career in public service began in 1932 when he was elected to a term as a White Pine alderman. With few services and a small tax base, he and other council members picked up trash as part of their duties; and

WHEREAS, he later served for 12 years on the Jefferson County Court, voting on several important school building projects and trying many lawsuits as a justice of the peace. Mr. Messer was also instrumental in organizing the county planning commission, and was its first chairman; and

WHEREAS, for his many noteworthy accomplishments, Mr. Messer was named the 1992 "Jefferson Countian of the Year" by the chamber of commerce and First Tennessee Bank; and

WHEREAS, Roy Messer evinced his faith as a member of the White Pine United Methodist Church, where he served on the administrative board; and

WHEREAS, his numerous honors and accolades aside, Mr. Messer was most appreciative of the love and support he shared with his widow, Virginia. He and his first wife, who is also deceased, raised three loving daughters, of whom he was especially proud. Mr. Messer was the grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of fourteen; and

WHEREAS, his name was synonymous with intelligence, compassion and professionalism, and he should be specially memorialized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. Roy Messer for the dedication with which he served as a representative of the people of White Pine and the state of Tennessee, expressing our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.